CLAIMS

1. A building material for erecting or restoring water-repellent and water-storing building structures, in particular dikes/levees, essentially consisting of a sand and/or powdered mineral which has been rendered water-repellent by means of a surface treatment with a hydrophobing agent.

2. The building material in accordance with Claim 1, characterised in that it contains 1 to 2 % by weight of calcium stearate as the hydrophobing agent.

3. The building material in accordance with Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that it contains tall oil, soy oil or rape oil as the hydrophobing agent.

4. The building material in accordance with any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that it has a grain size smaller than 200 µm.

5. The building material in accordance with any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the powdered mineral consists of natural, broken rock.

6. The building material in accordance with any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterised in that it is produced essentially from a powdered mineral containing calcium carbonate.

7. A use of a material essentially consisting of a sand and/or powdered mineral, which has been rendered water-repellent by means of a surface treatment with a hydrophobing agent, for erecting or restoring building structures, in particular dikes/levees.

8. The use in accordance with Claim 7, characterised in that the material is in the form of a loose bulk material filled into a receptacle.

9. The use in accordance with Claim 8, characterised in that the material is packaged in a bag made of a flexible plastic material, in particular polyvinyl chloride.

10. The use in accordance with Claim 8 or 9, characterised in that the receptacle is a valve bag.

11. The use in accordance with any one of Claims 8 to 10, characterised in that the receptacle is made of a porous material.

12. The building structure, in particular a dike/levee, characterised in that for the protection against the penetration of liquid it contains at least one core zone which is produced by means of a material in accordance with at least one of Claims 1 to 6 and/or by means of a receptacle in accordance with any one of Claims 8 to 11.

13. A method for the production of a material in accordance with one or more of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the sand and/or the powdered mineral is rendered water-repellent by preselected quantities of sand and/or powdered mineral and hydrophobing agent being mixed in a mixer for a time period which is selected in dependence of the grain size.

14. The method in accordance with Claim 12, characterised in that the powdered mineral is produced from natural, broken rock by way of the rock being crushed/reduced in size and cleaned prior to the hydrophobing process.